

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 FEAE-00 OES-06 OMB-01

TRSE-00 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 /053 W

----- 047098

R 272140Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2965

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 4749

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, VE

SUBJ: DISCRIMINATORY AVIATION FUEL CHARGES

REF: STATE 78683

1. REF PARA 3 ASKS THAT EMBASSY ASCERTAIN IF DISCOUNTS ON AVIATION FUEL ARE STILL BEING GIVEN TO VIASA. INASMUCH AS VIASA NOW PURCHASES ALL FUEL FROM GOV-OWNED CORPORATIONS, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT QUESTIONING THESE ENTITIES WOULD BE FRUITFUL. EVEN WHEN THESE CORPORATIONS WERE IN U.S. HANDS WE HAD NO SUCCESS IN OBTAINING INFORMATION ON BILLING PRACTICES OR ON PRICE AND TAX STRUCTURES. FURTHER,, QUESTIONS COULD IN FACT BE COUNTER PRODUCTIVE.

2. WE EXPECT THAT VIASA BEING BILLED AT SAME PRICES AS OTHER CARRIERS, BUT THAT DISCOUNT MAY BE INCLUDED AS PART OF GOV SUBSIDY TO VIASA WHICH 55 PERCENT GOV OWNED. MARIANO TIRADO, CHIEF, TRANSPORTATION DIVISION OF FOREIGN MINISTRY, HINTED TO EMBOFFS THAT SUCH WAS THE CASE.

3. IN ANY EVENT, INASMUCH AS VIASA IS DOMINATED BY GOV AS MAJORITY STOCKHOLDER, GOV IS IN POSITION TO MAKE REBATES ON FUEL CHARGES, NAVAID CHARGES OR ANY OTHER CHARGES BY GOV ENTITIES AS PART OF ITS SUBSIDY. WITH THIS IN MIND, IT IS DIFFICULT TO SEE WHAT WOULD BE GAINED BY PURSUING THIS MATTER FURTHER.

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SHLAUDEMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 27 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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